BEFORE THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

2 3	MARC SPITZER Chairman JIM IRVIN Commissioner	RECEIVED	DOOKETED
4	WILLIAM A. MUNDELL		SEP 1 6 2003
5	Commissioner JEFF HATCH-MILLER	ACTION	DOCKETED BY
6	Commissioner MIKE GLEASON Commissioner		Inc
7	Commissioner		
8	IN THE MATTER OF U.S. V	\	OOCKET NO. T-00000A-97-0238

IN THE MATTER OF U.S. WEST COMMUNICATIONS, INC.'S COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 271 OF THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 1996

DOCKET NO. T-00000A-97-0238
DECISION NO. 66242

ORDER

11 12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

10

Open Meeting September 5 and 8, 2003 Phoenix, Arizona

BY THE COMMISSION:

Having considered the entire record herein and being fully advised in the premises, the Arizona Corporation Commission ("Commission") finds, concludes, and orders that:

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. The Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996 ("1996 Act") added Section 271 to the Communications Act of 1934. The purpose of Section 271 is to specify the conditions that must be met in order for the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") to allow a Bell Operating Company ("BOC"), such as Qwest Corporation ("Qwest" or the "Company"), formerly known as US WEST Communications, Inc. ("US WEST") to provide in-region interLATA services. The conditions described in Section 271 are intended to determine the extent to which local phone service is open to competition.
- 2. The FCC has emphasized the importance of several key components of any Section 271 application, including, but not limited to: 1) open participation of all interested parties; 2) independent third party testing of operation support systems ("OSS"); and 3) compliance with a

28

fourteen point competitive checklist which specifies the access and interconnection a BOC must provide to other telecommunications carriers.

- 3. A subsequent investigation by Staff into Qwest's compliance with Section 252(e) revealed that four parties, including XO Communications ("XO"), Eschelon Telecom, Inc. ("Eschelon"), Z-Tel Communications, Inc. ("Z-Tel"), and McLeodUSA, Inc. ("McLeod") had unfiled agreements with Qwest which acted to limit their participation in the Commission's Section 271 proceeding. Two of these carriers, Eschelon and McLeod, stated that they had unresolved issues as a result of their unfiled agreements with Qwest. AT&T Communications of the Mountain States, Inc. ("AT&T"); WorldCom, Inc. ("WorldCom"); and Covad Communications Company ("Covad") raised concerns about the non-participation of certain parties and with the resulting impact on the Section 271 record.
- 4. Staff held a Supplemental Workshop on July 30 and 31, 2002, in order to give parties to the Qwest Section 271 proceeding in Arizona, who were precluded from actively participating in the process through unfiled agreements with Qwest, and who believed there were unresolved issues resulting from this non-participation, an opportunity to voice the issues, and for Qwest to respond. Other parties were allowed to participate to the extent they had issues which arose from the new evidence presented. This Supplemental Workshop addressed several issues related to Qwest's OSS and Checklist Items 1 and 2.
- 5. On February 25, 2003, Staff filed its Final Supplemental Workshop Report on OSS issues. This Report is attached as Exhibit A. Four parties filed comments on this Report: AT&T and WorldCom (in a joint filing), Eschelon, and Qwest. On June 27, 2003, Staff filed its Final Supplemental Workshop Report on Checklist Items 1 and 2. This Report is attached as Exhibit B. Two parties filed comments on this Report: Eschelon and Qwest. Six parties filed reply comments on this Report: Eschelon; Qwest; AT&T; WorldCom; Mountain Telecommunications, Inc. ("MTI"); and Covad.

OSS RELATED CHECKLIST ITEM 2 ISSUES Disputed Issue No. 1 – Service Affecting Performance and Reporting

OP-5 and PO-20

5

 6. Eschelon raised several sub-issues related to service affecting performance and reporting. Eschelon stated that it did not believe that Qwest was accurately reporting the service being provided to Eschelon. Specifically, Eschelon expressed concern about the accuracy of Performance Indicator Definition ("PID") OP-5 (New Service Installation Quality). Eschelon's internally calculated results for OP-5 were significantly different from those reported by Qwest. Qwest responded by stating that its performance meets the standards set by the PIDs.

Following the workshop, Staff requested its consultant, Cap Gemini Ernst & Young ("CGE&Y"),

Following the workshop, Staff requested its consultant, Cap Gemini Ernst & Young ("CGE&Y"), to conduct a test to reconcile the differences in the Eschelon and Qwest data. CGE&Y's Report concluded that there are many errors and omissions in Qwest reported OP-5 results as well as disagreements on what should be included in the PID definition. Many of the discrepancies (approximately 70%) were occurring because of legacy system limitations. Advancements in capabilities have made improvements possible for OP-5. For the remaining 30% of the discrepancies, there was considerable disagreement between Qwest and the parties on the OP-5 exclusion definitions. With respect to the major disagreements noted in its Report, Staff found that all trouble reports received within 72 hours of installation were intended to be included in PO-5; and that conversions from retail to CLEC service that result in Out of Service conditions on the day of the cut should also be included in PO-5.

- 7. Eschelon also questioned whether the PIDs adequately capture troubles that are reported through Qwest's documented processes when those processes allow action other than opening a trouble ticket with the repair desk. Qwest stated that it believes the PIDs do adequately capture all types of troubles. In its Report, Staff disagreed with Qwest and stated that trouble reports that are caused by Qwest service order errors should be included in OP-5 as trouble reports.
- 8. In Qwest's comments on Staff's Final Supplemental Workshop Report on OSS issues, Qwest states that it has proposed changes to OP-5 to address Staff's concerns. The OP-5 PID is currently being discussed in the LTPA. Staff notes that the LTPA is recommending

changes which are inclusive of Staff's recommendations with respect to OP-5. Staff agrees that these changes should address Staff's recommendations on this issue. We accept Staff's recommendation that Qwest provide the Commission with a copy of the OP-5 PID language once it is finalized. If there are any remaining impasse issues between Qwest and the CLECs on the final version of the language for OP-5, Staff will resolve those issues.

- 9. With respect to PO-20, Staff did not believe that the current proposal that Qwest had made captured Eschelon's issues. Staff Report at p. 34. Eschelon's issues were that service order accuracy should include errors in the services/features ordered on the Local Service Request that are not correctly transferred to the Qwest service order. Id.
- 10. In its February Report and Recommendation, Staff recommended the following with regard to OP-5 and PO-20:
 - a. That Qwest be required to verify through a filing with the Commission within 90 days from the effective date of the Commission's Order approving this Report that its new calculation process corrects the high incidence of coding problems uncovered in the CGE&Y Report.
 - That Repeat Reports continue to be included in OP-5, since the parties and
 Owest agreed to inclusion at the time of PID development.
 - c. That OP-5 measure the total percentage of new installations without a trouble or customer affecting condition experienced within the first 30 days of installation.
 - d. In cases were troubles are excluded because they were referred to another department, such cases should be considered by the TAG and/or Long-Term PID Administration for inclusion in service installation quality calculations.
 - e. That PO-20 be modified to include measurement of whether all the services/features ordered on the LSR were correctly transferred to the Qwest service order and to include calls to the service center because of a service order error.

11.

Workshop Report on OSS issues. Qwest disagrees with Staff's characterization that there are "many errors and omissions in Qwest's reported OP-5 results." Qwest Comments at p. 5. Qwest states that it has implemented a new calculation process that eliminates the coding problems uncovered in the CGE&Y Report. Qwest also states that it has proposed improvements and changes to OP-5 to address the issues cited in the CGE&Y Report and concerns raised by Staff with respect to this issue. Qwest also agrees to address repeat reports in OP-5; it supports a way of addressing new service repeat or multiple reports that preserves the accuracy of measuring installation s that are free of trouble reports and also measures them as a percentage of problem reports involving newly-installed services. Qwest Comments at p. 6. Qwest further stated that it agrees to include in OP-5 both the repair reports from its maintenance and repair tracking systems and also reports of service-affecting problems captured from falls to Qwest's interconnect service centers (call center data). The OP-5 PID is currently being discussed in the Long Term PID Administration group ("LTPA").

On March 10, 2003, Qwest filed its comments on Staff's Final Supplemental

LSR were correctly transferred to the service order, via the measurement method upon which PO-20 is based (i.e., comparisons of LSR fields with corresponding service order fields). Where this measurement method cannot feasibly address certain aspects of order accuracy, Qwest accepts a "safety net" concept that is based on call center data. Qwest Comments at p. 8. Eschelon suggested that when service order errors occur but are corrected by CLECs, the errors should be accounted for in the PIDs. In Qwest's comments on Staff's Final Supplemental Workshop Report on OSS issues, Qwest disagrees that PO-20 should include these types of errors. Qwest states that it provides CLECs with a notice of a pending order called a Pending Service Order Notification ("PSON"). If a CLEC notices an error in the PSON, it can report the error to Qwest and it will be corrected prior to provisioning of the order. Qwest states that it may identify the error whether or not a CLEC notifies Qwest. Qwest also believes that its OP-5 and PO-20 proposals will capture service order issues that are not identified and corrected by Owest.

- 13. Eschelon supports the Staff recommended changes relating to service affecting performance and reporting and asks the Commission to adopt them. Eschelon Comments at p. 2.
- 14. While AT&T and WorldCom filed Comments on Staff's Reports, they did not comment specifically on this issue.
- 15. Qwest and the CLECs are currently refining the OP-5 measurement through the LTPA. Staff has monitored Qwest and CLEC proposed improvements and changes to OP-5 in the LTPA and notes that the LTPA is recommending changes which are inclusive of Staff's recommendations with respect to OP-5. Staff agrees that these changes should address Staff's recommendations on this issue. We accept Staff's recommendation that Qwest provide the Commission with a copy of the OP-5 PID language once it is finalized. If there are any remaining impasse issues between Qwest and the CLECs on the final version of the language for OP-5, Staff will resolve those issues.
- Staff's recommendations with respect to PO-20. Staff agrees that these changes should address Staff's recommendations on this issue. We accept Staff's recommendation that Qwest provide the Commission with a copy of the PO-20 PID language once it is finalized. If there are any remaining impasse issues between Qwest and the CLECs on the final version of the language for PO-20, Staff will resolve those issues.
- On a going forward basis, Qwest should be required to demonstrate that the system created discrepancies found by CGE&Y, and other problems discussed above, have been corrected. Qwest presentation of this further evidence should include a comparison with the old method of calculating OP-5 for review by the parties.

OP-3

18. Eschelon suggested that OP-3 (Installation Commitments Met) be evaluated to determine whether it should reflect (unless adequately reflected elsewhere) that, when there is a service order error, that Qwest did not meet its commitment to provision the order as written by the due date. Qwest stated that it believes that changes to other PIDs, such as OP-5, adequately addressed this issue. In its February 25, 2003, Report and Recommendation, Staff agreed with

Qwest that OP-3 is not the place to measure trouble reports due to service order errors by Qwest. Staff believes that this issue is resolved with Staff's resolution of OP-5. No party commented on Staff's finding on OP-3, therefore Staff's recommendation is accepted.

Withholding 271 Approval

- 19. Eschelon suggested that the form and content of any long-term PID administration plan be developed, so that a forum is available when needed, before Section 271 approval is recommended. Qwest disagreed that a long-term PID administration plan must be developed before the Commission recommends Section 271 approval. Eschelon also stated that the Commission should not recommend Section 271 approval for Qwest before the end-user customer's experience improves and that improvement is documented and verified. Qwest states that the Section 271 process in Arizona has confirmed that CLECs are able to provide local service to their end-users in Qwest's region at a level that meets or exceeds the Section 271 requirements.
- 20. AT&T and WorldCom also expressed concern in their Comments with Staff's conclusion of 271 compliance, on Qwest's agreement to implement the recommendations. AT&T and WorldCom object because Qwest is being permitted to prospectively implement all of Staff's recommendations. AT&T/WorldCom Comments at p.3.
- 21. Staff agrees with Qwest that there is no legal requirement or justification for withholding Section 271 approval until the long-term PID administration forum has been established. Staff also notes that the Long-Term PID Administration group has been created and the Commission is involved in its activities. Further, Qwest has already implemented many of Staff's recommendations. We agree with Staff that 271 approval need not await actual implementation of all of the recommendations of Staff and Consultants. Further, we also agree with Staff that separate reporting of UNE-E/UNE-M and UNE-Star from UNE-P is not necessary since it is understood that the UNE-Star product will be for the most part replaced by UNE-P. Finally, the FCC has already approved Qwest's other thirteen states as having met the Section 271 OSS requirements.
- 22. Further, Eschelon suggested that measures to address all of these impasse issues should be developed and incorporated into the Performance Assurance Plan ("PAP") before

Decision No. __ 66242

Section 271 approval is recommended (i.e., before long-term PID administration). Qwest did not offer comments on this impasse issue. Staff notes that OP-5 is already contained in the PAP plan for Arizona. When OP-5 is corrected to resolve the issues discussed above, this impasse issue will be resolved. We agree with Staff that modification of OP-5 in the manner discussed above should also flow to the Arizona PAP, since OP-5 is already included therein. Additionally, any need for further revisions to the PAP can be addressed in the first 6-month review.

Disputed Issue No. 2 - Time-Consuming and Cumbersome Ordering Process

- 23. Eschelon raised two sub-issues concerning time consuming and cumbersome ordering processes. First, Eschelon suggested that Qwest should be required to successfully add the capability to convert customers as specified without having to list and map changes, adds, or removes before obtaining 271 approval. Second, Eschelon suggested that Qwest should be required to successfully add migrate by telephone number capability before obtaining 271 approval.
- 24. In its Staff Report and Recommendation, Staff found that this impasse issue had been satisfactorily resolved through the CMP process. The changes that Eschelon is requesting have been committed to in IMA 12.0 release which is scheduled for April 2003. Moreover, once Qwest determined that it could implement a portion of one of these requests without system changes, it followed the CMP notification process and eliminated the requirement to specify unwanted features on UNE-P conversion requests. That change was effective August 16, 2002. Staff recommended that Q west file in this D ocket verification that IMA 12.0 implemented this change request.
- 25. In Qwest's comments on Staff's Final Supplemental Workshop Report on OSS issues, Qwest confirms that the changes associated with this issue will be included in the IMA 12.0 release, scheduled for April 2003. Qwest agrees to file verification that IMA 12.0 implemented these changes.
- 26. On June 10, 2003, Qwest filed a verification that it had implemented the changes associated with this issue with IMA Release 12.0 on April 7, 2003, which resolves this impasse issue.

__

Disputed Issue No. 3 – Cutovers

- 27. Eschelon stated that Qwest should be required to show that it is providing timely cutovers and complying with its own documented cutover procedures. Qwest described the current process for cutovers. Also, CMP CR PC061002-1 (draft) provided further clarification to the process followed if the CLEC is not ready within 30 minutes. The change from telephone to email no dial tone notices requested in CR PC061002-1 became effective September 25, 2002, and was noticed to the CLEC community on September 5, 2002.
- 28. According to Staff, the issue has been satisfactorily handled by Qwest through the CMP process and therefore is no longer an open issue.

Disputed Issue No. 4 - Unannounced CLEC Affecting Systems Changes

- 29. Eschelon stated that Qwest should be required to show that it is adequately notifying CLECs of changes to systems, including changes to Qwest's back end systems, when those changes may impact CLECs. Eschelon stated that this is a continuing problem since specific processes regarding directory listings have changed, and Eschelon was not notified of these changes. Qwest states that no change has been made to the specific process for directory listings.
- 30. In its February Report and Recommendation, Staff agreed with Eschelon that changes to processes should not be made without notification to CLECs. Staff accepts Qwest's response that the example given by Eschelon was not a system change. CGE&Y was asked to follow up and review Qwest actual performance in following the CMP processes. Their report found that Qwest was following procedures on notification to CLECs concerning system changes. Staff's findings are reasonable and shall be adopted.

Disputed Issue No. 5 - OSS Lack of Flow Through

31. Eschelon states that Qwest should be required to show that Centrex 21 orders successfully flow through to UNE-P-POTS after Release 10.1. Eschelon states that these orders do not flow through. Qwest confirmed that Centrex Plus and Centron orders do not flow through. This results in out of service periods since a disconnect occurs and a new connect must be completed. Qwest stated that it is evaluating both process and systems enhancements to minimize the out of service period.

- 32. In its February Report and Recommendation, Staff stated concern with this Disconnect-New Connect order process. The net result is that when there is a problem with the connect order, the CLEC customer is put out of service until the manual assistance responds and handles the connect order. This current process requires too much out of service time and is resulting in customer out of service trouble reports. Staff recommended that for CLEC orders that require both a Disconnect order and a New Connect order that a process be implemented that requires Qwest to monitor on a proactive basis to ensure that when the connect order falls out for manual handling that there is an immediate response to restore service. The process should be monitored in the same fashion as a coordinated cut. This new proactive process should prevent extended service disruptions to new CLEC customers.
- 33. Staff further recommended that this new process be implemented within 90 days and that Qwest should advise the Commission upon implementation. Qwest should post this process on its Product Catalog ("PCAT") web site and notify CLECs. The revised process and its effectiveness will be reviewed in the first six-month PAP review.
- 34. Qwest's comments on Staff's Final Supplemental Workshop Report on OSS issues, Qwest disagrees that it should proactively monitor the Disconnect-New Connect order process. Qwest states that this requirement would be unreasonable given the small fraction of orders for which this is an issue. Instead, Qwest proposes that it focus on current process adherence and improvements in order to identify problems and to bring them to the CMP.
- 35. Staff does not agree with Qwest and because of the seriousness of disconnecting a customer during conversion to a CLEC, Staff continues to support its initial recommendation. If Qwest is ultimately able to propose process improvements through the CMP to resolve this issue, this would of course be acceptable. However, until the problem can be resolved through improvements in Qwest's current processes, Staff's recommendation for proactive monitoring is reasonable.

Disputed Issue No. 6 – Maintenance and Repair: Authorization and Accuracy For Closing

Tickets

- Eschelon stated that Qwest should be required to show a track record of obtaining CLEC authorization before closing tickets and of applying the accurate closing codes. Q west stated that it attempts to notify its customers and follows the same process for its Retail and Wholesale operations when closing a trouble ticket. The OSS test did not identify a problem with this issue although CGE&Y's Data Reconciliation Report did find problems with disposition coding. Therefore, Qwest is investigating the accuracy and reliability of its current disposition code audit process and application. Results of this investigation will be used to determine if changes need to be made to this process with increased focus on accuracy.
- 37. Because there have not yet been any practical solutions proposed to solve this problem, but Qwest has agreed to further examine this issue and ways to improve its current processes, Staff recommended in its Report that the Commission request that Qwest provide, through a filing in this Docket, the findings of its review and its plans to improve Disposition Code Reporting. Staff recommended that the filing be made by Qwest prior to the six-month PAP review.
- 38. In Qwest's comments on Staff's Final Supplemental Workshop Report on OSS issues, Qwest agrees to provide a filing on the findings of its review and efforts to improve disposition coding accuracy prior to the six-month PAP review.
- 39. Staff's recommendations are reasonable and shall be adopted. With Qwest's agreement to Staff's recommendation, this issue appears to be resolved.

Disputed Issue No. 7 – Billing Accuracy

40. Eschelon raised several sub-issues regarding billing accuracy. Eschelon questioned whether the current billing accuracy measure accurately reflected Eschelon's experience. Eschelon suggested that this measure be revised and expanded and that Qwest should be required to correct the inaccuracies in Eschelon's bills. Eschelon suggested that Qwest should be required to provide adequate notice, including detail to substantiate the changes and time for objection, if Eschelon disagrees with the proposed changes, before making rate and profile charges. Eschelon also stated that once issues (including long-disputed issues) are resolved in a CLEC's favor, the performance results should be adjusted to reflect the resolution. Qwest stated that its

Decision	No.	66242

investigation into this issue indicated that most billing inaccuracies in Eschelon's bills are not related to system-wide defects in Qwest's billing functions. Qwest also stated that the billing accuracy PID, BI-3, is designed to capture the effects of billing adjustments for error in the reporting month in which the adjustments occurred, regardless of when the original billing took place. Thus, it would be non-compliant with the current PIDs, as accepted by the parties, to adjust past reported results, when the actual adjustment took place in the month it is implemented.

- 41. In its Report and Recommendation, Staff agreed that billing accuracy is a very important issue. At the conclusion of the OSS test, all billing issues identified had been corrected. The major issues remaining that related to billing appeared to be unique billing issues related to the Eschelon and McLeod special product (UNE-E and UNE-M, respectively) billing. This special billing arrangement was agreed to between Qwest and these CLECs. Nonetheless, Qwest committed that this was only an interim measure and that it would convert its manual billing process to mechanized billing for these products. However, the conversion process has encountered one delay after another. Accordingly, Staff recommended that Qwest be required to count these billing problems as an error or an inaccurate bill for purposes of calculating its billing measurements, until conversion occurs. Staff also recommended that Qwest and Eschelon should also be required to provide the Commission Staff with additional information regarding the issues involved with converting Eschelon's embedded accounts and provide a mutually agreed upon resolution within 90 days.
- Workshop Report on OSS issues. Eschelon states that the Commission should clarify (or revise) the PID to require Qwest to make a billing adjustment for each month in which bills are inaccurate. In Qwest's comments on Staff's Final Supplemental Workshop Report on OSS issues, Qwest states that it does not believe that a billing inaccuracy issue exists with respect to the embedded accounts issue. Qwest states that its billing methods for UNE-E accounts must continue until the migration of the accounts is completed. Qwest states that it has tried to resolve the issue with Eschelon by proposing solutions, but Eschelon has not agreed to meet to further

discuss the issue. However, Qwest agrees to meet with Eschelon to discuss the conversion of the embedded accounts in order to come to a resolution on this issue.

43. We disagree with Qwest that a billing inaccuracy issue does not exist, pending conversion to a mechanized billing process. We find Staff's initial recommendations on these issues to be reasonable. Qwest shall be required to count each bill for which a manual adjustment is still required, as an inaccurate bill or an error for purposes of calculating its billing measurements, until conversion occurs. Qwest can exclude these manual billing adjustments from its PID calculation if it can demonstrate to Staff that Eschelon is unreasonably preventing conversion of the accounts to the automated billing process. The Commission Staff or its consultant will be available to participate in discussions among the parties on this issue. We agree with Staff that no further clarification or revision to the PID is needed. Both Qwest and Eschelon should work in good faith to resolve the issues associated with conversion to a mechanized billing process and should provide updates to Staff on the results of their negotiations.

Disputed Issue No. 8 – Switched Access

- 44. Eschelon stated that the Commission should further investigate whether Qwest is providing complete and accurate records from which CLECs may bill interexchange carriers access charges and whether Qwest's performance in this regard is accurately measured.
- 45. Staff agrees with Eschelon that this was an area of major concern. Staff was very concerned about the results of the original test of Daily Usage Files ("DUF") in the OSS test. Although now corrected, because of the problems encountered during the OSS test with DUF records, Staff recommended that a retest of DUF records be conducted within twelve months. Qwest has agreed to this recommendation and advises that it will comply. Staff believes that the problems with DUF have been tested and corrected. The retest requested by Staff should provide evidence as to whether the problems continue to be corrected on a going forward basis, or whether additional action by the Commission is necessary.

Disputed Issue No. 9 – Stand Alone Test Environment (SATE)

Eschelon questioned whether products that are in Qwest's production environment but not in SATE should be added to SATE employing the CMP prioritization process, or whether Qwest was obligated to add those products outside of the CMP prioritization process and by a date certain. This issue was also at impasse in the TAG. Qwest submitted a compromise position to the Arizona TAG wherein those products can be implemented into SATE after the volume of CLEC use for each of the relevant product(s) reaches (within Qwest's 14-state region) 100 transactions during the prior twelve (12) month period. The implementation of those products into SATE will then be scheduled for the upcoming major SATE release if feasible; or if not feasible, then no later than the next major SATE release.

- 47. The Qwest proposal resolved the Arizona TAG impasse issue since it satisfied the CLEC concerns. Staff, therefore, considered the issue resolved.
- Workshop Report on OSS issues. Eschelon supports Staff's recommendations in the Report, except that Eschelon also believes that the Commission should require Qwest to implement Staff's recommendations prior to receiving Section 271 approval. Eschelon made two additional recommendations in its comments. Eschelon states that the Commission should clarify that the billing accuracy PID measures the percentage of CLEC billing in error and should require Qwest to make a billing adjustment for each month in which CLEC bills are inaccurate. This PID should be revised as necessary to reflect these clarifications. Eschelon also states that the Commission should add a billing PID to reflect the completeness of the Daily Usage Files.
- 49. Staff disagrees with Eschelon on these issues. Staff believes that the recommendations contained in its Report do not need to be fully implemented prior to Section 271 approval. Staff also believes that the billing accuracy PIDs do capture valuable information and that additional changes to those PIDs are not warranted at this time.
- 50. In Eschelon's comments on Staff's Final Supplemental Workshop Report on OSS issues, Eschelon states that Staff's recommendations should be fully implemented before the Commission grants Section 271 approval. On March 10, 2003, AT&T filed its comments on Staff's Final Supplemental Workshop Report on OSS issues. AT&T agrees with Eschelon that

the Commission should require Qwest to implement Staff's recommendations prior to receiving Section 271 approval.

- 51. Staff disagrees with Eschelon and AT&T that all of Staff's recommendations contained in its Final Supplemental Workshop Report on OSS issues need to be fully implemented prior to Section 271 approval.
- Staff's recommendations contained in its Final Supplemental Workshop Report on OSS issues and the recommendations contained herein regarding the resolution of all OSS issues, Staff believes that all outstanding OSS issues raised in the Supplemental Workshop have now been resolved. Qwest should be required to provide evidence that it has implemented Staff's recommendations. This evidence and the effectiveness of the recommendations will be reviewed at the first six-month PAP review. Qwest has sufficiently demonstrated before this Commission that it meets all applicable OSS Testing requirements and all applicable checklist requirements relating to the issues addressed herein.
- 53. Staff deems the OSS Test portion of Qwest's Section 271 initiative to be complete. In Staff's opinion, with the above resolutions of the issues presented, all of the objectives of implementing a comprehensive independent Third Party administered OSS Test have been fulfilled.

NON-OSS RELATED CHECKLIST ITEMS 1 AND 2 ISSUES

Disputed Issue No. 1 – UNE-P Feature Availability: Remote Access Forwarding

Eschelon raised several sub-issues related to UNE-P feature availability and Remote Access Forwarding ("RAF"). Eschelon stated that RAF is not a proprietary Advanced Network Architecture ("AIN") feature and proposes that Qwest must provide RAF with UNE-P. Alternatively, if Qwest is allowed to treat RAF as an AIN feature unavailable with UNE-P, Eschelon stated that Qwest should be required to provide to CLECs a list of switches for which RAF (and other switch features that Qwest claims are not otherwise available to CLECs) is activated. Qwest responded that Eschelon's position is based on three mistaken assumptions. First, Qwest's RAF is AIN based, not switch-based. Second, Eschelon is mistaken when it asserts that Qwest provides switched-based RAF to its own customers. Third, the FCC has held that AIN

service software should not be unbundled when the ILEC makes its AIN platform or database, Service Creation Environment, Service Management System ("SMS"), and Signal Transfer Points ("STPs") available for CLECs to develop their own AIN products. The FCC makes no mention of any exception to this holding for an AIN feature that is similar to a switch-based product an ILEC may have offered in the past. Quest stated that a list of the features that are unavailable with UNE-P, including AIN products, voice messaging products, and feature products is in the PCAT.

- must make these features available to it. While Qwest is not obligated to make proprietary AIN features available to CLECs as unbundled network elements, nothing precludes Qwest from voluntarily agreeing to make certain of these features available to CLECs in its interconnection agreements. Once Qwest makes them available to one carrier, it must make them available to other carriers under the opt-in provisions of the 1996 Act. Staff reviewed the amendments to Eschelon's interconnection agreement with Qwest dated July 31, 2001. Both amendments, as well as the attachments, list the features available with UNE-P as including the following four AIN features at retail rates: Remote Access Forwarding, Scheduled Forwarding, Dial Lock, and Do Not Disturb. Therefore, Staff found that in looking at the plain language of these amendments and accompanying attachments, Qwest's agreements incorporate provisions which obligate them to make available to Eschelon at retail rates the four AIN features listed above.
- 56. Staff also found in its June Report that there is no reason for Qwest to make AIN features available to some CLECs on a platform basis but not others. In addition, because Qwest has committed to make voice mail available to CLECs in Minnesota with UNE-P, Staff believes that Qwest should also be required to make this feature available to CLECs in Arizona which desire this feature with UNE-P. In addition to having the option of obtaining the AIN features at retail rates with UNE-P, Qwest must still make available the option of allowing CLECs to elect the switch-based features at cost based or TELRIC rates.
- 57. On July 18, 2003, both Eschelon and Qwest filed comments on Staff's Final Supplemental Workshop Report on Checklist Items 1 and 2. While Eschelon agreed with Staff's

recommendation regarding the availability of certain features with UNE-P, it stated that several sub-issues remain or have since arisen. First, Eschelon reports that while Qwest committed to updating its website information related to the availability of features with UNE-P, Qwest has actually deleted this information from its PCAT on the website. Eschelon recommends that Qwest be required to place the updated feature availability information on its website in a location easily accessible by CLECs. Eschelon states that to develop, market, and order a product, CLECs need to know which features are and are not available with a product, as well as the Universal Service Ordering Codes ("USOCs") for those features. Eschelon therefore asks the Commission to adopt the Staff's recommendation on availability of features and to further require Qwest to post a complete "Features, Products & Services Unavailable with UNE-P Products" (with USOCs and language description) document, as modified to reflect the Commission's decision, in a logical and readily accessible location on Qwest's web-site.

- See With UNE-P. However, Qwest states that it will provide Remote Access Forwarding, Scheduled Forwarding, Dial Lock, and Do Not Disturb AIN features to other CLECs, which are available under the Qwest and Eschelon UNE-E agreement. Qwest will provide these AIN services following Section 271 approval and through December 31, 2005 (this is the termination date of the Eschelon and Qwest UNE-E agreement). Qwest states that it will modify its next SGAT to include a statement that it will provide these AIN services from the date of Section 271 approval through December 31, 2005. Qwest also states that it will provide voice mail to CLECS with UNE-P following Section 271 approval. Qwest will modify its SGAT in order to make this voice mail timeframe clear. On page 5 of its Comments, Qwest proposed specific SGAT language for the availability of the four AIN features at issue.
- 59. In Eschelon's reply comments on Staff's Final Supplemental Workshop Report on Checklist Items 1 and 2, Eschelon stated that Qwest should immediately make AIN features and voice mail available to CLECs.

60. On July 25, 2003, AT&T filed reply comments on Staff's Final Supplemental Workshop Report on Checklist Items 1 and 2. AT&T states that Qwest should immediately make the AIN features available to CLECs.

- 61. In Qwest's reply comments on Staff's Final Supplemental Workshop Report on Checklist Items 1 and 2, Qwest states that it has removed lists of unavailable features from its website and replaced it with a UNE-P Features Matrix which is posted on its website. Qwest states that the matrix lists UNE-P products and indicates whether the listed features are standard, optional, or not available for each product. The listed products include links to the product description pages for each product, including language descriptions, information regarding availability and a table of relevant USOCs. According to Qwest the matrix indicates by omission those features that are not available.
- 62. Staff continues to support its initial recommendations on this issue. In addition to its features matrix, Staff believes that Qwest should continue to display the list of unavailable features with UNE-P (with USOCs and language description). Further, Staff recommends that Qwest not be allowed to limit the availability of the four AIN features or voice mail with UNE-P until the effective date of Qwest's Section 271 approval or until December 31, 2005. Staff further recommends that the language proposed by Qwest for its SGAT on this issue, be rejected.
- 63. We agree with Staff's recommendations. It would be inappropriate for Qwest to condition the availability of the features upon its receipt of 271 approval. Under the Federal Act, CLECs have a right to opt-in to agreements approved by the State Commission. These amendments are now in effect, therefore, CLECs should be able to exercise their opt-in rights immediately. Further, Qwest shall continue to make voice-mail and the four AIN features available to CLECS with UNE-P until further order of the Commission approving a request by Qwest to discontinue the provision of these services with UNE-P.
- A sub-issue was also raised by Eschelon as to whether Qwest should be allowed to charge CLECs right to use fees for activating an AIN feature, when Qwest unilaterally chose to provide the feature through AIN, instead of spreading the cost of any such fees across all users. Qwest responds that if Qwest uses AIN technology to provide services to its retail end-user

customers, it is under no obligation to make those AIN-based services available to CLECs purchasing UNE-P combination service. If a CLEC chooses to request that Qwest activate a switch-based service that is not currently available in Q west's switch, there would be costs to perform such work.

- 65. In its June Report, Staff believed that Eschelon raises some legitimate concerns. Staff believed that Eschelon's concerns should be addressed through implementation of a more formal process for verification and cost justification. Qwest should be required to provide vendor feature documentation regarding whether a feature is or is not in the switch. Qwest might do this in the form of a letter from the vendor of the switch that they have not paid for the feature and that it is not installed in the switch. In addition, the vendor should know whether it has been activated and the date of activation. Qwest should also be required to cost justify any activation fees and testing fees it charges and receive Commission approval of the charges subject to true-up. In particular, it should provide verification of any right to use fees. Staff also recommended that Qwest be required, at the time it receives a request for a switch-based feature that has not been activated, to utilize its CMP process to query CLECs on any features for which they anticipate requesting activation in the next 12 months. Depending upon the response received, Qwest should structure its charges accordingly.
- 66. In Qwest's comments on Staff's June Workshop Report, Qwest states that it currently supplies CLECS with a list of features activated in each switch through the Special Request Process ("SRP") it has implemented. Therefore, it believes that Staff's recommendations are not necessary since the SRP satisfies Staff's concerns. In Eschelon's reply comments on Staff's Final Supplemental Workshop Report on Checklist Items 1 and 2, Eschelon states that the SRP process does not provide the information mentioned by Staff in its recommendation.
- 67. To resolve this issue Staff recommends Qwest insert the following language into its SGAT: 9.11.1.3.2 Shared Right-To-Use Fees for Switched-Based Features allows two (2) or more Carriers (including Qwest) to share the applicable Right-To-Use Fees for Switched-Based Features. Under a sharing arrangement one (1) CLEC obtains a Switch-Based Feature from Qwest pursuant to this Agreement or an approved Interconnection Agreement, and another CLEC.

4 5

pursuant to the terms of its Agreement or approved Interconnection Agreement, may share the applicable Right-To-Use Fees equally between the requesting Carriers. Shared Right-To-Use Fees may also be established through joint Application by CLECs in which Qwest will have a separate Billing relationship with each applicant and will look to each CLEC for payment of its proportionate share of the Right-To-Use Fees relating to the Switch-Based Feature. For the first twenty-four (24) months after an initial request Qwest will prorate the Right-To-Use Fees for providing the Feature regardless of how many Carriers actually utilize the feature by determining the total applicable Right-To-Use Fees for provisioning the Feature and allocating equally that fee to all sharing Carriers (and billed directly to each such Carrier). Qwest shall not place unreasonable restrictions on CLEC's ability to make use of this arrangement.

- Another sub-issue raised by Eschelon concerned Qwest's employees not responding to its inquiries in a timely fashion, and at times giving it contradictory information as to feature availability. Eschelon stated that Qwest should be required to establish that its employees have been trained in the proper processes for CLECs to request the features, functions, and capabilities of the switch. Qwest could not explain the specific problems experienced by Eschelon. However, Qwest does not believe that there is a problem with its employee's training.
- 69. In its June Report and Recommendation, Staff agreed with Eschelon that it should have access to employees that are knowledgeable about these processes. Staff recommended that Qwest be required to certify that its employees which interface with CLECs on end-user affecting issues have attended and passed the requisite training. Qwest should also be required to publish the training such employees are required to complete both on its website and within its Code of Conduct. In addition, Qwest should implement a streamlined complaint process for CLECs experiencing difficulties with this issue. Staff also recommended that the Commission require Qwest to send out relationship management surveys to CLECs annually, as part of its CMP process, to determine whether Qwest is meeting its obligations in this regard, and that it is not acting in an anti-competitive manner with respect to any CLECs. Qwest should be required to publish the results of its survey on a state by state basis, where applicable.

27

28

In Eschelon's comments on Staff's Final Supplemental Workshop Report on 70. Checklist Items 1 and 2, Eschelon states that CLECs should also be able to provide input, through the CMP, on the relationship management survey process in order to help craft relevant survey questions and have input on which CLEC employees should be surveyed. In Qwest's comments on Staff's Final Supplemental Workshop Report on Checklist Items 1 and 2, Owest objects to Staff's recommendations on this issue for several reasons. First, Qwest states that training all of its wholesale personnel in every aspect of switch features for every switch is unreasonable. Second, Qwest's Code of Conduct states that all employees need to complete the required Third. Owest believes that its current escalation process adequately addresses the training. recommendation that a streamlined complaint process be implemented. Fourth, Qwest states that it is developing a relationship management survey for CLECs. In Qwest's reply comments on Staff's Final Supplemental Workshop Report on Checklist Items 1 and 2, Qwest disagrees with Eschelon that CLECs should be involved in developing the surveys since this would compromise the integrity of the survey process. Qwest has hired an independent third party to design and implement the survey.

71. Staff continues to support its initial recommendations that Qwest be required to certify that its front-line employees which interface with CLECs on end-user affecting issues receive appropriate training and that Qwest publish the certification and a general description of the categories of training on its website. Qwest shall be required to take steps to ensure that its employees receive continuing training for new products and processes specific to their job functions. Qwest shall be required to implement a streamlined complaint process from CLECs experiencing difficulties with Qwest representatives that allows CLECs to escalate any issue, at any time, to any escalation point. The Staff also continues to recommend that Qwest utilize a relationship management survey to obtain CLEC input on Qwest's performance for CLECs. Staff believes the CLEC survey can be designed at Qwest's option, either through CMP or by an independent third party. Qwest shall not unilaterally or inappropriately control such independent third party in the design of the CLEC survey. The survey may be accomplished through an independent third party vendor which Qwest states it has already hired, as long as the third party

vendor is able to maintain its independence and gives appropriate weight to all CLEC's input into the CLEC portion of such survey. CLECs shall have input to the survey processes and the topics to be covered in the CLEC survey. If Qwest utilizes its broader customer satisfaction survey, CLECs shall be given the option of submitting additional comment in writing. If Qwest decides to use the CMP process, decisions shall be made by a two-thirds vote or by independent third party consultant. We believe that Staff's recommendations are reasonable and shall be adopted.

The final sub-issue raised by Eschelon had to do with the availability of Market Expansion Line ("MEL") with UNE-P. In its June Report and Recommendation, Staff understood that MEL is provided by Qwest through AIN. Staff believed MEL to be equivalent to remote call forwarding, which is also a switch-based feature. This feature could be provided as an unbundled switch network element that does not require a port. However, Staff concluded that this issue had been resolved through its above recommendations on Remote Access Forwarding. In Qwest's comments on Staff's Final Supplemental Workshop Report on Checklist Items 1 and 2, Qwest clarifies that MEL is not an AIN service nor is it a feature available with UNE-P. However, Qwest will allow a CLEC to use the SRP to order MEL as a new UNE. Staff believes that Qwest's response addresses this impasse issue and that the issue is closed. We agree with Staff.

Disputed Issue No. 2 – Unannounced Dispatches

- 73. Eschelon stated that a documented process that is available to CLECs for non-emergency maintenance visits by Qwest to CLEC end-user premises should be established to ensure that proper procedures are followed regarding notice, branding, and coordination. Qwest stated that it has an internal process in place to ensure that the customer of record (i.e., CLEC) is notified if a Qwest technician is going to work on a CLEC end-user premise. Qwest said that it is an internal process, so it will not share existing documentation about the process with CLECs. Instead, Qwest said it would create a matrix describing the process and distribute it to CLECs.
- 74. In its Report, Staff believed that Qwest's proposal resolved this impasse issue. Qwest did provide a matrix describing the process and distributed it to the CLECs. The matrix was added to the Owest Wholesale Web Site.

75. In Eschelon's comments on Staff's Final Supplemental Workshop Report on Checklist Items 1 and 2, Eschelon suggests that the Commission should require Q west to add links on its website to the relevant portions of the PCAT to better direct CLECs to the matrix. In Qwest's reply comments on Staff's Final Supplemental Workshop Report on Checklist Items 1 and 2, Q west states that it a grees with Eschelon's suggestions on this issue and will make its matrix available in the Maintenance and Repair PCAT. We agree with Staff that this issue is now resolved.

Disputed Issue No. 3 – DSL: Disconnect In Error

- 76. Eschelon suggested that Qwest should have a written obligation to escalate a disconnect in error for DSL to be due the same day. Qwest stated that it implemented process modifications to address this issue. In situations involving disconnects in error, Qwest typically restores service in less than 24 hours. Qwest also stated that if the CLEC has unique situations, it should use the escalation process.
- 77. In its Report and Recommendation, Staff acknowledged that the results cited by Qwest show improvement, however, Staff disagreed with Qwest that there is no need to impose a shorter restore interval for this problem. If Qwest disconnects a DSL service in error, this is equivalent to a trouble condition. Therefore, the DSL repair out of service commitment interval should be used to restore service. Staff further stated that this commitment should be documented in Qwest's repair process procedures in the PCAT.
- 78. In Qwest's comments on Staff's Final Supplemental Workshop Report on Checklist Items 1 and 2, Qwest states that its process of creating an order to restore service when a disconnect occurs is appropriate. Also, Qwest states that it is also appropriate that the order includes the standard interval for provisioning service. In its Reply Comments, Eschelon stated that under the current standard interval, a CLEC's end-user customers can wait days for their DSL service to be restored, which should not have been disrupted in the first place.
- 79. Staff disagrees with Qwest on this issue and continues to support its initial recommendation. If Qwest disconnects a DSL service in error, this is equivalent to a trouble condition and the DSL repair out of service commitment interval, therefore, should be used to

restore service. Qwest shall document this revised process in its repair process procedures in the PCAT.

Disputed Issue No. 4 – DSL: Disconnect DSL Early (Before Voice)

- 80. Eschelon suggested that Qwest should be required to leave DSL functional until the time of cut requested by CLEC (and not earlier). Eschelon also suggested that Qwest should be required to show that it is following this process before gaining Section 271 approval. Qwest stated that it is currently investigating alternative solutions that would allow the DSL service to remain functional until the time the voice service is disconnected. Once these solutions have been thoroughly analyzed, Qwest stated that it would communicate proposed changes to the CLECs via the Change Management Process ("CMP") in November 2002.
- 81. In its Report and Recommendation, Staff agreed with Eschelon on this issue. Qwest recently provided an update on the CMP November meeting. It reported that an internal DSL system change was implemented on December 17, 2002. Eschelon concurred with the change. With this update, we agree with Staff that this impasse issue is closed.

Disputed Issue No. 5 - Maintenance and Repair: Discrimination

- 82. Eschelon stated that Qwest should be required to provide a statement of time and materials and applicable charges to CLECs at the time maintenance and repair work is completed (as Qwest does with retail customers). Qwest responded that it does provide CLECs with a dispute process for repair charges. Qwest is also trying to determine the cost of implementing a change that would allow Qwest to send daily email messages to CLECs after completion of the repair ticket, which would detail the ticket number of the repair and associated charges.
- 83. In its Report and Recommendation, Staff agreed with Eschelon that this is a very important issue in need of resolution. Qwest reported that a CR on this issue is in the development phase and is following the CMP process. Staff recommended that Qwest advise the Commission when this process is agreed upon and implemented. The PCAT in the Repair Overview should then be updated to advise CLECs of this procedure.
- 84. In Qwest's comments on Staff's Final Supplemental Workshop Report on Checklist Items 1 and 2, Qwest states that the CR was modified to provide CLECs with the ability to view all

4 5

7

6

8 9

10

11 12

13

14

15 16

17

18 19

20

21 22

23

24

25

26

27

28

of their repair invoices on the internet. Qwest implemented this CR on June 25, 2003, and the PCAT was updated to include this process on June 25, 2003, as well. In Eschelon's reply comments on Staff's Final Supplemental Workshop Report on Checklist Items 1 and 2, Eschelon states that Qwest's statement that the CR was successfully implemented on June 25, 2003, is incorrect. The deployment was not successful and a CR on this issue remains open.

85. Staff continues to support its initial recommendation. We find Staff's recommendation to be reasonable.

Disputed Issue No. 6 – Maintenance and Repair: Untimely Bills

- 86. Eschelon stated that Qwest should be required to make a written commitment to CLECs to provide timely bills or, if untimely, not apply the charges to CLEC bills. Qwest stated that the policy of not billing for maintenance charges over 45 days old was implemented in February 2002. Owest stated that it believes that no additional commitment related to this issue is necessary.
- In its Report, Staff recommended that the Commission require Qwest to document 87. its policy so that it is applied uniformly. This policy should also be posted on the PCAT web site under Repair Overview so that CLECs are aware of this policy.
- In Eschelon's comments on Staff's Final Supplemental Workshop Report on 88. Checklist Items 1 and 2, Eschelon states that Owest has interpreted its policy as meaning that Owest will not write an order to generate a bill more than 45 days following the process date. However, Eschelon believes that this interpretation is incorrect and requests clarification that bills will be sent within 45 days of the repair date. In Qwest's comments on Staff's Final Supplemental Workshop Report on Checklist Items 1 and 2, Qwest states that maintenance and repair charges will not be processed if the repair date was completed 45 days or more in arrears of the process date. In AT&T's reply comments on Staff's Final Supplemental Workshop Report on Checklist Items 1 and 2, AT&T states that it disagrees with Qwest's interpretation of Staff's recommended billing policy. Eschelon also noted in reply comments that Qwest has claimed to Eschelon that it is proper under the same policy to send a bill 75 days after the repair work was completed.

Decision No. 66242

89. We believe that Qwest's agreement to institute a policy not to process maintenance and repair charges that cannot be posted by the second bill cycle after the maintenance and repair occurred satisfies Staff's recommendation. Therefore, Qwest must implement this policy by November 30, 2003.

Disputed Issue No. 7 – Maintenance and Repair: Insufficient Information in Bills

- 90. Eschelon stated that Qwest should be required to provide the circuit identification number on unbundled loop bills for maintenance and repair charges. Qwest stated that it and the CLECs are working, through the CMP, to develop a mechanized means for communicating repair charges to CLECs regardless of how the associated trouble report was submitted. Qwest also stated that its bills do provide sufficient information so that the circuit identification numbers are not necessary for Eschelon to review its repair charges. Qwest also stated that it implemented process modifications in March 2002, to allow the CLEC to more easily reference the charges on a bill to a specific trouble report.
- 91. In its June Report, Staff stated that the CMP process should resolve this issue. Qwest recently reported that circuit identification information on unbundled loop bills for maintenance and repair charges is already in the Central and Western regions. This CR, when implemented, will provide this functionality in the Eastern region as well. This CR was to be implemented on March 2003. Staff recommended that Qwest advise the Commission when this process is completed and implemented.
- 92. In Qwest's comments on Staff's Final Supplemental Workshop Report on Checklist Items 1 and 2, Qwest states that the CR was implemented on March 17, 2003.
 - 93. We agree with Staff that this impasse issue is now closed.

Disputed Issue No. 8 – Maintenance and Repair: Pair Gain

94. Eschelon stated that Qwest should not be allowed to impose upon CLECs dispatch charges before it has ensured that the loop is working from its equipment to the pair gain. Eschelon also stated that Qwest should not be allowed to impose unnecessary maintenance and repair charges on CLECs that are due to Qwest's use of pair gain. Qwest stated that a change was made on July 23, 2002, that provided that when the repair call handling bureau receives reports

that say anything about pair gain, they are instructed to take the ticket whether any trouble results have been indicated or not. Qwest also stated that it does not impose unnecessary maintenance and repair charges. Specific to the issue of pair gain, when the CLEC identifies up-front that the facilities are pair gain, Qwest will not assess optional testing charges. Qwest offered additional language in its PCAT as further clarification of its policy.

95. In its June Report, Staff agreed with Qwest's new process for handling of trouble testing that includes pair gain. Qwest should not impose unnecessary maintenance charges because a subscriber is served by pair gain facilities when the correct process is followed. No party commented on Staff's resolution; therefore this issue appears to be resolved.

Disputed Issue No. 9 – Maintenance and Repair: Reciprocity

- 96. Eschelon stated that Qwest should be required to accept charges from CLECs for testing that CLECs conduct for Qwest in the same types of circumstances under which Qwest charges CLECs. This requirement should be clearly stated in Qwest's Statement of Generally Acceptable Terms ("SGAT"). Qwest responded that consistent with industry practice, its interconnection agreements require that CLECs test to isolate trouble to the ILEC network before issuing a trouble ticket to Qwest and provide for charges to apply when the trouble is found to be outside the Qwest network. Qwest stated that CLECs use Qwest's network to serve their endusers; the reverse is not true.
- 97. In its Report, Staff agreed with Qwest on this issue. This issue of reciprocal charges for repair was discussed at length in the Checklist workshops and was not identified as an impasse issue at that time. The CLECs agreed with the language now in the SGAT. As pointed out in the SGAT, trouble isolation for a CLEC customer is a CLEC responsibility.
- 98. In Eschelon's comments on Staff's Final Supplemental Workshop Report on Checklist Items 1 and 2, Eschelon states that Staff's recommendation only applies to charges for initial testing, but not to charges for subsequent testing due to Qwest error. Therefore, Eschelon believes that the Commission should not preclude further review of this issue with its final ruling in the Section 2.71 c ase. In Q west's reply comments on Staff's Final Supplemental Workshop

Eschelon.

 Report on Checklist Items 1 and 2, Qwest states that it agrees with Staff and disagrees with

99. Staff disagrees with Eschelon and reaffirms its position on this issue. Staff's position is reasonable and shall be adopted.

Disputed Issue No. 10 – Loss and Completion Reports

- 100. Eschelon stated that Qwest should be required to provide to CLECs with a single report that lists the customers that have left the CLEC to go to another carrier. Qwest replied that it has a different understanding of what should constitute an internal versus external loss indication on the report. This was discussed further during the September CMP meeting and Eschelon will be issuing a system CR to initiate the process for the change.
- 101. Staff agrees that a CLEC should be notified when a customer is lost. It is understood that this information is on the Loss and Completion Report, but not as clearly indicated as Eschelon would like. Qwest reported that Eschelon issued a system CR (SCR093002-01). Qwest discussed the requirements with all CLECs in December 2002 to ensure that all CLECs understand how the changes will impact the report. The CR is in the definition phase now and following the CMP process.
- 102. In Eschelon's comments on Staff's Final Supplemental Workshop Report on Checklist Items 1 and 2, Eschelon states that Qwest should be required to notify the Commission when the process is implemented. In Qwest's comments to Staff's Final Supplemental Workshop Report on Checklist Items 1 and 2, Qwest states that the CR was implemented on June 25, 2003. In Eschelon's reply comments on Staff's Final Supplemental Workshop Report on Checklist Items 1 and 2, Eschelon states that not all issues relating to loss and completion reports were resolved on June 25, 2003. Eschelon states that the Commission should require Qwest to perform a comparison of losses and completions to reports for resale, UNE-P, and unbundled loops for 30 days.
- 103. Staff disagrees with Eschelon's suggestion and continues to support its initial recommendation. Staff recommends that Qwest continue to keep the Commission apprised of the progress on the open action item in CMP, the change that it has promised to implement by month's

end (See Eschelon Reply Comments at p. 8) and the extent to which the CLEC concerns have been met.

Disputed Issue No. 11 – Policy of Not Applying Rates in Interconnection Agreements

- opted in to an SGAT, a rate that has not been approved in a Commission cost docket or that does not use the Commission approved cost model. Eschelon questioned whether the Commission should establish a process under which, if a charge is due and is not in the interconnection agreement, Qwest must negotiate a rate, obtain commission approval for a rate, or at least reach agreement on using the commission approved cost models and processes to calculate the rate before charging the rate.
- should reflect the Commission approved rates resulting form the latest wholesale pricing docket in Arizona. These rates were most recently set in Docket No. T-00000A-00-0194. If the CLEC interconnection agreement does not include rates for the work or service requested, then Qwest can and should utilize SGAT rates, as these are approved Commission rates. However, even for rates included in an interconnection agreement, many agreements provide that they shall be superceded by any Commission approved rates in a generic costing docket. If Eschelon disputes whether Qwest is applying any charge correctly, it has the right to raise the issue with the Commission.
- 106. In Eschelon's comments on Staff's Final Supplemental Workshop Report on Checklist Items 1 and 2, Eschelon clarifies that it does not object to the application of Commission approved rates. Eschelon states, however, that Qwest's SGAT contains many rates that have not been approved by the Commission in a cost docket. Eschelon believes that for these instances, the rate is interim and subject to true up once the Commission approves final rates. Eschelon also states that when Qwest adds non-Commission approved rates to its SGAT, Qwest must provide cost support for these proposed rates and incorporate this information into the SGAT.
- 107. Eschelon also states that Qwest recently has imposed construction charges on CLECs for line conditioning. However, Eschelon states that no construction is required for line conditioning and that the Commission has not approved this new charge. Eschelon requests that

1
 2
 3

the Commission require Qwest to suspend this policy of charging a construction charge for line conditioning until it brings these changes to the Commission and obtains approval. On July 25, 2003, WorldCom, AT&T, and Covad filed reply comments on Staff's Final Supplemental Workshop Report on Checklist Items 1 and 2. On July 28, 2003, MTI filed reply comments on Staff's Final Supplemental Workshop Report on Checklist Items 1 and 2. Each of these CLECs concur with Eschelon's comments on the newly implemented construction charge for line conditioning. WorldCom recommends that the Commission withhold Section 271 approval until the new construction charge process is eliminated or revised to be consistent with Commission cost docket orders and Qwest's SGAT. MTI states that until Qwest eliminates the construction charge on line conditioning, it is not in compliance with Checklist Item 4. In Qwest's reply comments on Staff's Final Supplemental Workshop Report on Checklist Items 1 and 2, Qwest states that it agrees with Eschelon that issues pertaining to construction charges for line conditioning should be addressed. Qwest believes that Phase III of the cost docket is the appropriate place to address this issue. Qwest also states that its construction policy should not be suspended since it agrees to provide refunds to CLECs, if so ordered by the Commission.

108. To the extent unapproved rates are contained in Qwest's SGAT, Staff believes that they would be considered interim and subject to true up once the Commission approves final rates. However, Staff does not believe that there should be any rates in the SGAT that Qwest has not separately filed with the Commission, along with cost support, for prior review and approval. To allow Qwest to simply put rates into effect, without the agreement of the CLEC in a particular case through a negotiated interconnection agreement, could be a great impediment to competition.

charges on CLECs for line conditioning. Staff is extremely concerned that Qwest would implement such a significant change through its CMP process without prior Commission approval. As noted by AT&T, during the Section 271 proceeding, the issue of conditioning charges was a contested issue. Language was painstakingly worked out in the Qwest SGAT dealing with the issue of line conditioning which Qwest's new policy is at odds with. Staff recommends that Qwest be ordered to immediately suspend its policy of assessing construction charges on CLECs for line

conditioning and reconditioning and immediately provide refunds to any CLECs relating to these unauthorized charges. Qwest should reinstitute its prior policy on these issues as reflected in its current SGAT. If Qwest desires to implement this change, then it should notify the Commission in Phase III of the Cost Docket, but must obtain Commission approval of such a change prior to its implementation. To the extent Qwest does not agree to these conditions, Staff recommends that Qwest's compliance with Checklist Items 2 and 4 be reopened. We agree with Staff.

Disputed Issue No. 12 – Collocation

- Qwest should demonstrate that its documented processes for ensuring that CLEC collocation equipment is protected during construction activities have been tested and proven successful before the Commission recommends Section 271 approval. Eschelon also stated that this approval should be withheld until Qwest demonstrates that it obtains authorization to enter a CLEC's collocation facilities before entering them. Qwest stated that it has fully distributed documentation to its employees on proper collocation procedures.
- 111. In its Report, Staff agreed that this is a very serious issue. It appears from Qwest's response that they take this issue seriously and have taken appropriate steps. Therefore, Staff believes this issue is resolved going forward. We agree with Staff, however, that Eschelon notify Staff if there is a reoccurrence of this problem.
- 112. Eschelon suggested that Qwest be required to provide CLEC collocation personnel with Qwest's written processes and procedures for protecting CLEC collocation equipment during construction and to incorporate those procedures on its wholesale website. Eschelon also suggested that language be added to the SGAT to require Qwest to pay for clean up costs when Qwest construction results in dust contamination to CLEC equipment. Qwest stated that it has documented all processes for ensuring that CLEC collocation equipment is protected during construction activities and has distributed this information to its managers. Qwest has also posted this information on its wholesale website.
- 113. In response to this issue, Qwest advised that it has developed written processes and procedures for protecting CLEC collocation equipment during construction. The enhancement of

these processes and procedures was the subject of CMP change request PC021502-1, the response to which was approved in the CMP in April 2002. In the response to CR PC021502-1, a commitment was made to update Qwest's Technical Publication ("Tech Pub") No. 77350 which is referenced in the collocation section of the SGAT and the collocation section of the PCAT. The update of Tech Pub 77350 related to approved change request PC021502-1 has been distributed through the CMP and is available to CLECs on the wholesale website. Staff believes that this response by Qwest satisfies Eschelon's request on this issue. Staff recommends that the SGAT be changed to include language that provides for Qwest to pay for clean up costs when Qwest construction results in dust contamination to CLEC equipment. This language also should be reciprocal. In Q west's comments on S taff's F inal S upplemental W orkshop R eport on C hecklist Items 1 and 2, Qwest states that it agrees to modify the SGAT so that there are reciprocal obligations on each party to pay for the cleaning necessary after construction activities. We agree with Staff that this impasse issue is now closed.

Point of Termination ("APOT") information at least 15 days before a collocation ready for service ("RFS") date so that CLECs are able to place orders early enough to enable them to use their collocations on the RFS date. Eschelon proposed changes to the SGAT to address this issue. AT&T stated that it does not oppose the change proposed by Eschelon. Q west did not accept Eschelon's recommendations on this issue. Qwest stated that it has a 90-day timeframe for completing a collocation. Providing a CLEC with a final APOT 15 days prior to the RFS date would mean that Qwest must give the CLEC collocation in a reduced time frame. Qwest agreed to provide the preliminary APOT information to the CLEC 15 days prior to the ready for service ("RFS") date.

115. Staff agrees with Qwest on this issue. Qwest has 90 days to complete the collocation. Giving the CLEC final APOT information in effect reduces the Qwest interval by 15 days. The 90 day interval for providing collocation space is short and substantially improved from original collocation provisioning intervals. Qwest states that it provides the preliminary APOT to

the CLECs as a courtesy. Staff does not agree that requiring a final APOT 15 days early is justified at this time. We agree with Staff.

- 116. Eschelon next stated that Qwest should not be permitted to charge CLECs a maximum price of \$345 for all collocation augment quote preparations. Eschelon also stated that Qwest should not be permitted to charge CLECs the entire augment quote preparation fee of \$345 for the minor activity of terminating unused power. Qwest stated that the Quote Preparation Fee of \$345 was agreed to in the Arizona cost docket (T-500000A-00-0194, Decision #64922). Owest stated that these issues are best addressed in a cost docket proceeding.
- 117. Staff agrees that the quote preparation fee should be cost based. The quote preparation fee developed in the wholesale pricing docket was based upon information submitted by Qwest on the time and effort involved in this endeavor. To the extent circumstances vary, and less time is involved, the price should reflect the actual cost to Qwest. However, Staff agrees that the appropriate proceeding for any party to raise this issue is Phase III of the Wholesale Pricing Proceeding, Docket No. T-00000A-00-0194.
- 118. Eschelon also stated that Qwest should provide an objective and reasonable definition of what constitutes a "material change" to a collocation order so that Q west cannot unilaterally delay a CLEC's collocation order when a minor, non-material change is requested by a CLEC. Qwest stated that it would agree to define material change as those items listed on its web site under "Major/Minor Material Changes." The collocation application should be complete and accurate when it is received; however, Qwest is willing to accommodate changes. After much discussion, additional SGAT language was agreed to in all states' 271 workshops. AT&T agreed to the additional SGAT language. AT&T does not agree to allow Qwest to define material change through a listing on its website since Qwest can change its website at any time.
- 119. In its Report, Staff agreed with AT&T on this issue. In the workshop on this issue, the parties agreed to the language in the SGAT. Since Eschelon has not proposed alternate language, Staff agrees that the SGAT should not be changed.
- 120. Eschelon next argued that Qwest should be required to demonstrate that it has a process in place to provide CLECs with timely and accurate information informing them when a

collocation space becomes available at a Qwest premise prior to the Commission's approval of Section 271. AT&T agreed that as space becomes available in a Qwest premise, it should be made available to CLECs as soon as possible, especially when a queue has developed at that particular location. AT&T stated that the SGAT does contain a process for informing CLECs of collocation space, but it is unclear whether this process has been followed in the examples cited by Eschelon. Qwest stated that there are several issues that may inhibit Qwest's ability to make unused space available in a timely manner. Qwest stated that agreement was reached through the CMP on processes for decommissioning collocation space and transfers of responsibility for collocation space. Qwest also stated that it began posting a collocation available space inventory on its website in September 2002.

- 121. In its Report, Staff stated that this issue has been adequately addressed in the CMP. Qwest now posts available pre-provisioned collocation space on its website. With Qwest's action, this issue now appears to be resolved.
- 122. The next issue raised by Eschelon relating to collocation, had to do with whether Qwest should be required to charge CLECs the rates contained in the parties' interconnection agreement for collocation space rather than SGAT rates. Qwest researched the specific issues pertaining to Eschelon. The parties' interconnection agreement did not include some rate elements associated with the cageless collocation. Therefore, Qwest provided a quote for this cageless collocation based on the approved Arizona SGAT for those rate elements.
- 123. Staff believes that Qwest provides a satisfactory explanation on this issue. Rates in the parties' interconnection agreements should be utilized. If there are no rates agreed to in an interconnection agreement for certain services, then the SGAT, which contains Commission approved rates, should be utilized.
- 124. Eschelon next stated that Qwest should be required to provide CLECs with adjacent off-site collocation, a form of collocation offered by another ILEC, Southwestern Bell Telephone ("SWBT"). Eschelon argued that the FCC requires Qwest to provide this collocation if requested and technically feasible. Eschelon suggested changes to the SGAT language regarding this issue. Qwest argued that there is no legal requirement or FCC rule that requires

Decision	No.	66242

Qwest to provide collocation in or on property owned by a third party. AT&T took no position on Eschelon's proposal. However, if Eschelon is able to obtain this form of collocation, AT&T stated that it should be available to other carriers.

- 125. In its June Report, Staff agreed with Qwest on this issue. Staff believes that Qwest has met its obligations under FCC orders and rules on this issue. We agree with Staff.
- the Intermediate Combined Distribution Frame ("ICDF"). Qwest indicated that it has initiated a CR through CMP to allow for termination of Local Interconnection Services ("LIS") at the ICDF. If Qwest implements this change, Eschelon agrees that this issue will be resolved. AT&T agrees that CLECs should be able to access interconnection at the Qwest ICDF. Qwest responded with new language for the SGAT on this issue. Qwest stated that it expects its CR on this issue will be presented during the August 2002 CMP meeting with the expectation of product availability by September 2002.
- 127. Staff believes that this issue has been resolved through the CMP. With the change, Qwest will allow the combination of finished services (i.e., LIS) with other elements at Eschelon's ICDF Collocation. This issue is resolved

Disputed Issue No. 13 – Interconnection

addition to access charges on intraLATA toll calls. Eschelon stated that the SGAT section regarding this issue should be deleted. Q west stated that it should be permitted to charge for transit of Eschelon's local customers' intraLATA toll when Eschelon sends Qwest a call that Qwest delivers to a non Feature Group D ("FGD") carrier network, and the dialed number is intraLATA toll. If Eschelon sends Qwest a call that Qwest delivers to an FGD interexchange carrier network, Qwest does not bill Eschelon a transit rate. Qwest agreed that it should not charge for transit of Eschelon's local customer's intraLATA toll in addition to assessing access charges on an interexchange carrier for jointly provided (meet-point-billed) intraLATA toll calls. AT&T stated that the issue raised by Eschelon and its proposal need to be more fully developed and understood before changes are made to the SGAT.

129. In its Report, Staff stated that this issue is a cost docket issue and should be resolved there.

- 130. Eschelon stated that Qwest should not be permitted to charge CLECs for incomplete or old Category 11 billing records. Eschelon proposed a definition of a billable record that should be added to the SGAT. Qwest agreed with the proposed language change. AT&T did not object to the SGAT changes proposed by Eschelon.
- 131. Staff understands that Qwest has agreed to the changes requested by Eschelon. This closes the impasse issue.
- assumed tandem switching and tandem transmission mileage rate for which Qwest has provided no evidence as to the validity of the assumption. Eschelon also stated that CLECs should have the right to be charged a tandem switching and tandem transmission rate based on actual miles rather than on assumed miles. Eschelon recommended changes to the SGAT language reflecting its position on these issues. AT&T did not agree that the SGAT language should be changed. According to AT&T, the current SGAT language is more workable in that it allows for traffic to be carried, without delay, based on assumed mileage. Even with this as the default, the current SGAT language, as written, should permit carriers to establish actual mileage at any time. Qwest stated that actual distances are not always measurable so the use of average assumed distances is necessary.
- 133. Staff concurs with AT&T and Qwest on this issue. The current SGAT language is appropriate and workable.

Disputed Issue No. 14 – Tandem Failure Events

have a PID to measure these events. Eschelon suggested that when Qwest representatives receive calls from CLEC customers which lead the CLEC customers to believe that problems resulting from a tandem failure event were the fault of the CLEC, Qwest should be required to provide non-confidential documentation to show that there was a tandem failure event. Qwest stated that it does notify CLECs of tandem failures. Qwest explained the processes it uses to inform CLECs.

network failure.

1

3

6

7

5

8

11 12

10

1314

1516

17 18

19

2021

2223

2425

26

27

28

135. In its Report, Staff believes the description furnished by Qwest summarizing its processes for handling and reporting network outages is adequate. The process offered by Qwest

Qwest stated it would provide CLECs information that will contain a root cause analysis of the

to provide outage information for CLECs to provide their customers should also satisfy Eschelon's concern. Qwest will provide information that will contain a root cause analysis of the network failure. This can be used to explain to a customer the cause of the network problems they

experienced. The information is provided without a confidential footer and can therefore be shared with customers.

136. In Eschelon's reply comments on Staff's Final Supplemental Workshop Report on Checklist Items 1 and 2, Eschelon states that Staff's recommendations should be fully implemented before the Commission grants Section 271 approval.

- 137. Staff disagrees with Eschelon that all of Staff's recommendations contained in its Report need to be fully implemented prior to Section 271 approval.
- 138. With Staff's recommendations as to the resolution of all Checklist Item impasse issues as described above, Staff believes that all outstanding Checklist Item issues raised in the Supplemental Workshop have now been resolved. Qwest should be required to provide evidence that it has implemented Staff's recommendations. This evidence and the effectiveness of the recommendations will be reviewed at the first six-month PAP review.
- 139. Based upon the proceedings and record herein, and Qwest's agreement to implement the recommendations set forth above, Staff recommends that the Commission find that Owest is in compliance with applicable Section 271 Checklist requirements.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Qwest is a public service corporation within the meaning of Article XV of the Arizona Constitution and A.R.S. Sections 40-281 and 40-282 and the Arizona Corporation Commission has jurisdiction over Qwest.

2. Qwest is a Bell Operating Company as defined in 47 U.S.C. Section 153 and currently may only provide interLATA service originating in any of its in-region States (as defined in subsection (I)) if the FCC approves the application under 47 U.S.C. Section 271(d)(3).

- 3. Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. Section 271(d)(2)(B), before making any determination under this subsection, the FCC is required to consult with the State Commission of any State that is the subject of the application in order to verify the compliance of the BOC with the requirements of Section 271.
- 4. The Commission, having reviewed the Final Supplemental Report on OSS Issues dated February 25, 2003, concludes that as a result of the proceedings and record herein, and subject to Qwest's agreement to implement the recommendations contained herein. Qwest has sufficiently demonstrated before this Commission that it meets all applicable OSS Testing requirements relating to the issues addressed herein.
- 5. The Commission, having reviewed the Final Supplemental Report on Checklist Issues dated June 27, 2003, concludes that as a result of the proceedings and record herein, and subject to Qwest's agreement to implement the recommendations contained herein, Qwest has sufficiently demonstrated before this Commission that it meets all applicable checklist requirements relating to the issues addressed herein.

. ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that Qwest shall immediately begin to implement the recommendations contained in the Final Supplemental Report on OSS Issues, attached hereto as Exhibit A, as modified herein.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Qwest shall immediately begin to implement the recommendations contained in the Final Supplemental Report on Checklist Issues, attached hereto as Exhibit B, as modified herein.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this Decision shall become effective immediately.

BY ORDER OF THE A	RIZONA CORPO	RATION COMMI	SSION
Mrc/	amen &	wall lill	Mulow
CHAIRMAN	COMMISSIONE	ER	COMMISSIONER
Jeffrey Mother Mil	ller	Lower	Slease
COMMISSIONER		COMMISSIO	NER
	Executive Secre	etary of the A the hereunto, set my to be commission to be chix, this left day of	RIAN C. McNEIL, rizona Corporation hand and caused the affixed at the Capitol, of September, 2003.
DISSENT:			
DISSENT:			
EGJ:MGK:MAS			

Docket No. T-00000A-97-0238